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GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD

THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The Society's Exhibitions. The Society has received from the Bureau of Science, Manila, a series of 244 large photographs illustrating many phases of the Philippines and especially the development of the country since the American occupation. The photographs include series showing the improvements in Manila harbor; the native dwellings that were destroyed for sanitary reasons and the dwellings that have replaced them, the fine buildings of the Bureau of Science, the municipal government, the Philippine medical school, the general hospital, etc.; a large number of views of the Tagalogs, mixed breeds, native tribes; public schools, many agricultural and manufacturing industries, etc. The exhibition is now open to the public.

The maps illustrating the field of war, most of which have been on exhibition since August 7, are still attracting many visitors. The total attendance up to October 26 was 15,032. Thirty of the finest maps showing the war areas are now on the racks, some of them (in sheets) covering a larger surface than most wall maps. The exhibitions of the Society are open to the public from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M. on week-days and from 2 to 5 P. M. on Sundays.

Dr. and Mrs. Workman Address the Society. The Society's lecture season of 1914-1915 was opened by an extra inter-monthly meeting at the Engineering Societies' building, No. 29 W. Thirty-ninth Street, on Nov. 10th, at 8.30 P. M., when Dr. and Mrs. Workman spoke on the most recent phase of their notable work in the Eastern Karakoram. Mrs. Workman opened the evening with a paper on "The Exploration of the Great Rose Glacier, Eastern Karakoram," and Dr. Workman followed with a description of the "Physical Features of the Rose Glacier." The superior lantern views, in most cases, sharply defined glacial and mountain aspects at elevations thousands of feet higher than any ever displayed before on our platform.

NORTH AMERICA

The Weather Bureau Resumes Seismological Work. Congress having given authority to the Weather Bureau to conduct seismological work beginning with July 1, 1914, this service will accordingly be resumed. Professor C. F. Marvin, Chief of the Weather Bureau, says that the work will consist at first of a systematic collection of non-instrumental reports giving the essential features of such slight earthquakes as are likely to be felt in almost any part of the United States. Particular attention will be paid to the Pacific coast and Rocky Mountain regions, the Mississippi Valley in the neighborhood of Missouri, some parts of New York State and New England, and possibly the region near Charleston, S. C. By the collection of numerous reports of this character, it is believed that sections of the country may be determined where seismic motion on existing fault lines is taking place with some frequency and regularity. The location and mapping of these points of weakness are of great importance in the conduct of certain kinds of engineering work, especially those relating to great water-supply projects.

The development of the work along instrumental lines will proceed as rapidly as funds permit. The establishment is contemplated of a limited number of instrumentally equipped stations that will yield records not only of sensible seismic phenomena but also of the great unfelt vibrations resulting from large, distant earthquakes. The work will be under the supervision of Prof. William J. Humphreys (*Monthly Weather Review,* June, 1914, p. 393).

Proposed Historical Atlas of the United States. For two years past the Department of Historical Research at the Carnegie Institution has given considerable time to planning an atlas of the historical geography of the United States and collecting materials for its construction. Several specialists, including Prof. Frank H. Hodder of the University of Kansas, Prof.

O. G. Libby of the University of North Dakota, Prof. Max Farrand of Yale University and Prof. Jesse S. Reeves of the University of Michigan, each proficient in one or more subjects to be covered by the atlas, have been called to Washington to conduct investigations for the proposed work. The Department of Historical Research wishes to make the atlas of the greatest possible use to the teachers and writers of American history and is seeking all the helpful cooperation that can be secured.

According to present plans the completed atlas, exclusive of text, will contain 200 pages measuring about 22 by 14 inches. The largest maps will be approximately full-page maps, many others will be about one-fourth that size and many still smaller. The area covered will be generally the whole or a part of continental United States. It may occasionally be found desirable, however, to represent our detached possessions, adjacent parts of Canada and Mexico, the West Indies and parts of the North Atlantic and North Pacific Oceans. Excepting maps illustrating the geology of the country and its early aborigines, all the maps will fall within the period from the discovery of America in 1492 to the present time. The general headings are expected to include physical geography, aborigines, early maps of America, routes of explorers and colonizers, boundaries and divisions, industrial and social maps, and political, city and military maps. A considerable portion of the atlas will be devoted to political statistics, which will be treated somewhat after the method of Professor Turner and his students. It is to be hoped that the specialists in charge will have all the collaboration that can add to the value of the proposed atlas.

Depths of New York Bay and Harbor. The "Table of Depths for Channels and Harbors" on coasts of the United States (1913), recently issued by the Coast and Geodetic Survey, contains the following figures, in feet, for the depths of New York Bay and Harbor:

NEW YORK BAY	MEAN LOW WATER	MEAN HIGH WATER	NEW YORK HARBOR	MEAN LOW WATER	MEAN HIGH WATER
Gedney Channel................	30	34½	Bay Ridge Channel..........	38	42½
Main Channel..................	30	34½	Red Hook Channel...........	30	34½
Swash Channel.................	25	29½	Buttermilk Channel..........	28	32½
Ambrose Channel...............	40	44			
Coney Island Channel.........	17	21			

The Carnegie Returns from Her Latest Cruise. The magnetic survey vessel *Carnegie* arrived at Brooklyn on October 31, having completed a cruise of about 10,000 miles this summer in the North Atlantic Ocean. On her way from Hammerfest, Norway, to Reykjavik, Iceland, she reached the latitude of 79° 52′ N. off the northwest coast of Spitzbergen. Mr. J. P. Ault of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism was in command of the vessel and was assisted in the scientific work by Dr. H. Y. W. Edmonds and Messrs. H. F. Johnston, I. Luke and N. Meisenhelter.

Our Mineral Reserves. The U. S. Geological Survey has just published, as Bulletin 599, "Our Mineral Reserves; How to make America Industrially Independent." George Otis Smith, the author, discusses the mineral production, the situation with regard to our own extractive industries, the great reduction in the European output of minerals and metals likely to be caused by the war and the increase in our own productivity that may be practicable not only in extractive but also in the manufacturing industries. He says that the United States mined nearly 40 per cent. of the world's output of coal and produced 65 per cent. of the petroleum in 1913. Forty per cent. of the world's output of iron ore is raised from American mines and the smelters of the United States supply the world with 55 per cent. of its copper and at least 30 per cent. of its lead and zinc. On these raw materials the great metallurgical industries have been founded, but they would suffice for the support of much more extensive chemical and metal-working industries.

In the list of metal and mineral imports last year the larger items, named in the order of value, were unmanufactured copper, precious stones, nitrate of soda, copper ore and matte, nickel, tin, iron ore, pig iron and steel, petroleum products, manganese ores and alloys, platinum, aluminum, pyrite, graphite, stone, potash and magnesite. Mr. Smith shows that this country has an abundant supply of most of these products, and that, as far as they are concerned, it can be independent of foreign countries. The only essential minerals of which the United States has no supply commensurate with its needs are nitrates, potash salts, tin, nickel and platinum. Probably no other nation so nearly approaches absolute independence in respect to mineral resources.

War Exhibit at Columbia University. An exhibition dealing with the geography of the area affected by the European war, consisting of maps, block diagrams, etc., is being held under the auspices of the Department of Geology of Columbia University in the department's library, Room 301, Schermerhorn Hall.

AFRICA

Irrigation in the Sudan. Just before the war began it was reported in England that the building of the two great dams to be erected in the Sudan would be commenced this year. The dam across the Blue Nile is to provide water for the irrigation of the large district of the Gezira. This district, enclosed in the triangle formed by the junction of the White and Blue Niles, forms the most fertile portion of the Sudan. It only requires irrigation to render it one of the finest grain-producing areas in the world. The dam across the White Nile is intended to safeguard Egypt against the evil effects of an abnormally low or high flood, both of which are equally disastrous. Funds for the former project are to come out of the Sudan loan while money for the latter is to be provided by the Egyptian Government. The Sudan Irrigation Service has been completely reorganized so as to be in a better position to cope with the forthcoming work.

Enlarging Cape Town Harbor. The work is advancing satisfactorily of enlarging this harbor so that within two years from now it will be possible to accommodate vessels measuring 750 feet in length and drawing twenty-eight feet of water. The traffic between Europe and Australasia, *via* the Cape, is constantly increasing and it is regarded as important that Cape Town Harbor, which occupies the position of half-way house, should compare favorably with the harbors of Australia and New Zealand.

Protecting Big Game in Africa. International movements for the protection of elephants and rhinoceroses in Africa are not likely to have much effect for some time to come; but it is interesting to know that, according to reports published in various issues of the *London Times* shortly before the war began, efficient efforts to devise better protection for these animals in Africa had been far advanced. An international conference was held in the second week of May at the Foreign Office in London, with Lord Chelmsford presiding, at which representatives of all the European states possessing territory in Africa were present.. Existing regulations for the protection of elephants and rhinoceroses, it was reported, were not observed equally throughout the African territories and without such equality their efficiency was greatly impaired. The conference arrived at an agreement which, when ratified by the governments concerned, was expected to prove a distinct step in advance. The recommendations are said to have included the formation and maintenance of sanctuaries for elephants and rhinoceroses in suitable localities; the shooting of these animals to be permitted only on licenses to be made as nearly as possible identical in the different territories. In the case of rhinoceroses, absolute protection was recommended for a number of years and, as regards ivory, the standard weight for export was to be raised to over twenty-two pounds.

ASIA

To Study the Tribes of the Yenisei. It is announced in *Nature* that an expedition under the leadership of Miss M. A. Czaplicka, who holds a traveling scholarship of Summerville College, Oxford, is being sent out by the universities of Oxford and Moscow to study the tribes of the Yenisei region. The other members of the expedition are Mr. H. A. Hull, in charge of physical anthropological work, Miss Haviland, zoologist and ornithologist, and Miss Curtis, photographer. The tribes to be investigated are the Tungas and Ostiaks of the Yenisei, both with Mongoloid affinities, though they are physically distinct. The expedition will be absent about a year and is well equipped for the work.

AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

Nuggets. A "List of Nuggets found in Victoria" is published as No. 12 of the *Memoirs* of the Geological Survey of Victoria, Australia. The *Memoir* includes a description and the history, as far as known, of 1,327 nuggets found in that state. "Victoria has not only proved itself a land unusually rich in gold, but nuggets have been more lavishly distributed in this state than elsewhere and in sizes that have never been exceeded." It was once thought that alluvial nuggets resulted from the aggregation of gold while in the gravels and that an originally small piece might increase in size and ultimately become a nugget. This theory is not borne out by an examination of the surfaces of alluvial nuggets, which invariably show much scratching and rounding; and the common occurrence of angular quartz with the gold does not favor this view. Many nuggets are thoroughly rounded by the action of water; others are water-worn on one side only. Nearly all the nuggets were obtained in the "indicator" country between Ballarat on the south, Wedderburn on the north, Tarnagulla on the east and Ararat on the west. Some very heavy nuggets were found not on bed-rock but several feet above it in the ground. In the case of the Welcome Stranger nugget, the largest found in Victoria (2,284 troy ounces net), there were 68 pounds of quartz associated with the gold. No evidence has been found that accretion of gold occurs so as to enlarge the size of nuggets in the drifts, but there is ample proof that in some cases drift waters contain gold in solution.

Fanning Island. Newspapers say that the Germans had taken Fanning Island, a British possession, apparently to serve as a Pacific base on account of the loss of Samoa. The island has deposits of phosphates and a pearl-shell fishery in its lagoon, but its chief importance is the fact that it is a station of the Pacific cable which extends from British Columbia to Australia through Norfolk Island and Fiji and connects with New Zealand by Norfolk Island. This cable was cut by the Germans; but later, the British reoccupied the island and repaired the cable.

EUROPE

Some Effects of the War on Geographical Interests. Mr. Hugo Wichmann, who prepares the "Forschungsreisen" for *Petermanns Mitteilungen*, refers, in the October number of that periodical, to the unfavorable effect that the war is naturally having upon geographical exploration. Many field projects have been abandoned and parties that started out for field work have returned either to enter the army or because present conditions have curtailed their resources for exploration. Many men engaged in surveys in what has become hostile territory cannot continue their activities. Geographical publications have lost their connection with sources of geographical information by the suspension of postal facilities in many directions. *Petermanns Mitteilungen* is now receiving only a small part of the geographical publications that are usually sent to it. The *Mitteilungen* requests that all geographical societies, explorers and others as far as possible send their reports on explorations and other information intended for its pages through the geographical societies or other correspondents in the neutral countries.

Some Victims of the War. As was to be expected, the names of men known in geography and allied fields of work are beginning to appear in the death lists sent from the fighting lines. Among them are:

General Georges-Joseph Toutée of France, 59 years old, well known for his exploration of the hinterland of Dahomey and of the middle course of the Niger and for his books, "Dahomé, Niger, Touareg" and "Du Dahomé au Sahara"; Dr. Constantin Guillemain of the Technical High School in Aachen Germany, known for his explorations in Katanga and Kamerun, his most important publication being "Beiträge zur Geologie von Kamerun"; also Dr. Erich Scholz, a government geologist in German East Africa, and Dr. Heinrich Müller, a geologist in the Royal Prussian Geological Survey.

POLAR

ANTARCTIC

Icebergs of the Southern Hemisphere. The renewal of Antarctic exploration and research will bring into prominence the importance of the knowledge of ice conditions in the south polar regions. It is probably well known that the monthly meteorological charts of the Indian Ocean issued by the Meteorological Office usually contain particulars of icebergs of the southern hemisphere, with charts. The issue for September, *e. g.*, gives tables of icebergs met with each month during the last twenty-nine years, and also between January and May of this year. The summaries published during past years show that the epochs of frequency are variable, and that bergs may be met anywhere south of the parallel of 30° S. Heights of from 800 to 1,700 feet are not uncommon, and, in several instances, the lengths have been estimated to extend to many miles. It is stated that, unfortunately, angular measurements are seldom recorded. (*Nature,* Aug. 27, 1914, p. 670.)

ARCTIC

Dr. Bruce's Spitzbergen Expedition. The *Bulletin* announced the departure of Dr. W. S. Bruce from Edinburgh with a small party on an expedition to Spitzbergen early in July. He, with his scientific staff, consisting of Mr. J. V. Burn Murdoch, Mr. Robert M. Craig, geologist, and Mr. John H. Koeppern, zoologist, returned to Scotland on Sept. 18. *The Scottish Geographical Magazine* (October, p. 548) says that Dr. Bruce reports good health for his party and no accidents during their work. Some difficulty was experienced in carrying on the survey work, as the atmospheric conditions were not very favorable and there was an exceptional quantity of ice. It had been intended to continue investigations until the end of September, but the outbreak of the war made it necessary to go home earlier than was expected. An account of the work done will be published later.

The Sedoff Arctic Expedition. This Russian expedition which set out two years ago, under somewhat unfavorable auspices, with the design of reaching the North Pole by way of Franz Josef Land, according to news received in St. Petersburg about the end of August, has had a disastrous termination through the death of the leader. The first winter was spent in Novaya Zemlya, whence a part of the expedition returned to Russia at the end of the summer of 1913. Captain Sedoff, however, determined to persevere in his original plan in spite of the inadequate equipment which he was generally supposed to have at his disposal. According to the statement now made, he appears to have wintered once more in or near Novaya Zemlya (the winter quarters in both years are now said to be in "newly discovered territory"), and to have proceeded during the present year to Franz Josef Land, whence he started for the Pole with two sailors. On the way he fell ill and died. The surviving members have arrived in Archangel. (*Geogr. Journ.,* Oct., 1914, p. 411.)

The New Islands North of Siberia. *The Scottish Geographical Magazine* (Oct., 1914, p. 543) says that the geology of the new islands in the Arctic Ocean of Siberia discovered by Captain Vilkitsky (see "Nicholas II Land," *Bull. Amer. Geogr. Soc.,* 1914, No. 2, pp. 117-120) has been investigated, so far as the specimens of rocks brought home allowed, and the results are discussed by Messrs. Baklund and Tolmachef in the *Bulletin* of the Imperial Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg. The new island in the New

Siberian group (mapped in the *Bulletin*, Feb., 1914, p. 117) between the New Siberian Islands and Bennett I., which has been named after Captain Vilkitsky, has been found, as was to be expected, to be of geological structure similar to that of the adjacent islands of the group. Similarly the rocks collected on Nicholas II Land are identical with specimens taken from the east coast of Taimyr Peninsula. Nicholas II Land is thus a northern continuation of the peninsula, from which it is now separated by a strait. The smaller island off Cape Chelyuskin (marked as ''new island'' on the *Bulletin* map), which has been named after the Czarevitch Alexis, is built up of the detritus derived especially from the west coast of the Taimyr Peninsula. However, as specimens from Nicholas II Land have only been obtained from two localities, further observations may modify the conclusions now arrived at.

PERSONAL

Professor Albert Perry Brigham has returned to his work after spending the past year in Europe. In August last he gave a course of seven lectures before the Oxford University School of Geography, upon the topic, ''Regional Development and Conservation Problems in the United States.''

Professor W. M. Davis visited New Caledonia, the Loyalty Islands and the New Hebrides, in June and July, in connection with his Shaler memorial study of coral reefs in the South Pacific. In August he took part, as a foreign guest, in the Australian meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. He received the degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Melbourne; at Sydney he spoke before the section of geography on ''The Coast of New Caledonia,'' and before the section of geology on ''New Evidence for Darwin's Theory of Coral Reefs.'' In late August and early September, he made a short visit to the Great Barrier reef of the Queensland coast, and on Sept. 11 sailed from Sydney *via* New Zealand for the Society Islands, whence, after a month given to an examination of six members of that group, he sailed for San Francisco, arriving there Nov. 4, and reaching Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 9.

Dr. Otto Finsch, the well-known ethnographer and geographer of Brunswick, Germany, celebrated on Aug. 8 his seventy-fifth birthday. His field work was widely distributed. He was the first scientific man to publish a book on a part of the coastal regions of Kaiser Wilhelm Land in New Guinea.

It will gratify all who know Dr. H. R. Mill, personally or through his work, to hear that he has returned to England in good health, after his long vacation in Australasia, and has resumed the editorship of *Symons's Meteorological Magazine*. Mr. R. C. Mossman, who acted as editor of the magazine during Dr. Mill's absence (from the issue of November, 1913, to that of August, 1914), has decided to return to his meteorological duties in South America.

Dr. Eugen Oberhummer, Professor of Geography at the University of Vienna, was appointed visiting Austrian Professor to Columbia University for the present academic year. In spite of the war, Professor Oberhummer is expected to be in residence at Columbia during the second half year.

Professor Dr. Joseph Partsch, Professor of Geography at Leipzig University, has declined a call recently received from the University of Berlin.

Professor R. H. Whitbeck, Editor of the *Journal of Geography*, has received a leave of absence from his work at the University of Wisconsin until Feb. 1, 1915. From October to February he will be with the Historical Division of the Carnegie Institution at Washington. During this time Prof. Lawrence Martin will have the editorial management of the magazine.